

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-16 are now present in this application.

The specification and claim 1 have been amended, and claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that all claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the instant invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by BARCHI, U.S. Patent 6,507,866. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to independent claim 1, BARCHI does not teach or suggest what the Examiner relies upon it as supposedly teaching. BARCHI fails to teach or suggest, inter alia, the following features recited by above claims of the present application:

“accepting and forwarding the email message to a specific mailbox if the receiving number is higher than a third setting value and *an email address of the recipient of the email message does not appear in at least one recipient field of the email message*”.

In column 6, lines 26-37 of BARCHI, “...a record in a list maintained for detecting the pattern of many e-mail messages sent to a single recipient would contain information on the number of message received by that specific recipient over a predetermined time interval” is

recited. BARCHI discloses the concept of number of message received by a recipient, and uses the concept for email interception. The present application, however, determines whether the email address of the recipient of an email message appears in the recipient field of the email message, and, if not, the email message is intercepted. When composing an email message, a plurality of fields of the email message is required to fill out, such as recipient fields comprising recipient (TO), copy recipients (CC), and hidden copy recipients (BCC) fields, a title field, a content field, and others. Currently, recipients always receive garbage messages. The garbage messages, however, have no email address of the recipients in the recipient fields (TO, CC, and BCC fields). Therefore, claim 1 of the present application recites intercepting these garbage messages. No where in BARCHI is this feature claimed.

Additionally, another object of the present invention is “multi-stage” email interception. The limitations of claims 1-3 respectively represent conditions for respective stages. The amended claim 1 shows the spirit of the invention. The concept and mechanism are not disclosed in related references.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that BARCHI fails to teach or suggest the method of independent claim 1, as well as its dependent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 102(e) rejection are respectfully requested.

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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